Power capacity addition in the Eighth Five Year Plan

659. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the planned power capacity additions in the Eighth Five Year Plan have not materalised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for slippages are delays in taking up of infrasturtural and enabling works due to paucity of funds, delays in placing orders for generating equipment and in award of contracts for civil works/ erection of equipment, delayed deliveries and non-sequential supplies, contract failures, law and order problems and natural calamities like floods, land slides etc.

Board of directors of the power grid corporation

660. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details and composition of the present Board of Directors of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited;

(b) whether it is a fact that some members of the Board have been facing charges of irregularities and financial misfeasance;

(c) if so, whether Government have allowed such persons to continue in the Board; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) As on date, the Board of Directors of POWERGRID comprise of three full-time functional Directors and two part-time Directors. The full-time Directors are Shri R.P. Singh, Director (Personnel), Shri A.L. Jaggi, Director (Operations) and Shri R.K. Madan, Director (Projects). The part-time Directors are Shri J. Vasudevan and Shri S.R. Shivrain, Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of Power.

(b) to (d) Shri A.L. Jaggi, one of the Directors in the Board of POWERGRID, has been served with a chargesheet in January, 1997 for initiating major penalty proceddings. The decision on the continuance of the Director on the Board of POWERGRID would depend upon the final outcome of the departmental proceedings.

Export of power from the eastern grid

661. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the eastern region has surplus power at present and the eastern grid is facing high frequency problem;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to export energy from the eastern grid;

(c) if so, the detail thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that authorities are not able to arrive at a mutuallly agreed rate; and

(e) the steps being taken to utlise the surplus power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to export energy from Eastern Region to other regions. The export is already being done to the North-Eastern Region. A specific allocation of 150 MW from unallocated power of NTPC stations in the Eastern Region has been made to APSEB.

(b) and (e) A Power Purchase Agreement has already been signed between NTPC and APSEB where 150 MW power from Eastern Region will flow to APSEB and NTPC will bill directly to APSEB. APSEB is also to pay transmission charges to Powergrid and